



Diversity Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2013, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Faribault: B109, North Mankato: PCR3

Attendance: Anade' Long-Jacobs, Brian Fors, Harbi Hassan, Heidi Wyn, Jane Greathouse, Jennifer Ceminsky, Johnna Horton, Kathi Rusch, Kirstin Cronn-Mills, Mitzi Kennedy, Nicole Hamilton, Ramiro Alvarez, Sandra Woods, Tracy Stokes-Hernandez, Xavion Turey.

Approval of Agenda: Jane moved, Kathi seconded, motion passed to approve agenda.

Approval of 10/8/2013 Minutes: Motion to approve minutes with a clarification on discussion item number 3. Clarification: participation evaluations from diversity events on campus will be managed through research and planning. Mitzi moved, Sandra seconded, motion passed to approve minutes as amended.

Announcements: Current meeting times do not work for everyone on the committee. Johnna will send out a Doodle Poll to see what works best for everyone, focusing on afternoon meeting times.

Sandra Woods announced the Greater Mankato Diversity Council's 10-year celebration luncheon will take place on Tuesday, February 4th 11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Diversity Committee will purchase a table. Let Johnna know if you are interested in attending the celebration. RSVPs need to be received by January 27th.

Discussion Items:

1. Common Read Plan for 2014/2015. This year faculty and staff will be asked for their input on topics for the common read book. Kirsten suggested adding the topic of developmental or intellectual disabilities to the list Jane provided, and Xavion suggested adding a topic on class. It was also suggested to list the topics we have already covered so that the same topic is not repeated too soon. After a topic is selected a call for book recommendations will go out to all with a voting process similar to what has been done in the past to select the book. The goal is to have the book selected by April 18. A new work team will be responsible for planning and organizing events for the 2014/2015 Common Read Plan. A budget of \$5,000 has been proposed for the Common Read Plan. Xavion moved to approve the Common Read Plan and Kathi seconded.
2. Focus Groups. Heidi and Tracy reported on the results of the student focus groups regarding the proposed multicultural center. Based on feedback from students, the multicultural center would provide a safe space for students. It would be an area to receive support and would be welcoming

for all students. Students suggested that we visit multicultural centers at other colleges to get ideas. Much discussion was had about the purpose of the center. Would it be academic based or recreational based? Would it incorporate a quiet space? Has thought been given about the safety of LGBT students in this space? We need to be purposeful in naming the space and make sure all players are involved in the planning phase. A work team has started collecting data to make a proposal for a multicultural space and hopes to have a proposal submitted by the end of spring semester and to have something in place by the start of fall semester. Let Jane Greathouse know if you are interested in serving on this work group.

3. Retreat Recap. Attendees of the retreat liked the resources that were used. Email Johnna if there are specific resources that you would like to see at SCC, and she will look into purchasing them if it makes sense for the college. Overall it was a great training with a great facilitator. Let Johnna know if you have more to add as you continue to reflect on your experience.
4. Purpose/By-laws Rewording. Johnna handed out copies of revisions to the purpose of the Diversity Committee based on work that was done at the retreat. She is looking for a small group to come together to work on revising the by-laws. A Doodle poll will go out to find out availability and interest of those willing serving in this capacity.
5. Election of Chair for 2014/2015. Tracy Stokes-Hernandez accepted the nomination to serve as diversity committee chair for the 2014/2015 school year.
6. Budget Report. There is money in the budget earmarked for upcoming events (collaboration with MSU, a play for Black History Month or Women's History Month, Wake up to Diversity Series and Civility Training for staff).
7. Other. A standing Chief Diversity Office Report will be added to the agenda.
Other. Jane brought up the need for some formal complaint process for students, faculty and staff as well as training for staff on how to handle complaints received. Anade' will provide a flow chart which will detail how to handle a complaint/concern. It was requested that the flowchart be made available to all via the website.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Stokes-Hernandez